

# OXFORDSHIRE AA

## MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD FRIDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2007 AT EXETER HALL, KIDLINGTON.

**Present** – Alan Vincent, Lyn Hopkins, Peter O’Keefe, Graham Pickup, Noel Blatchford (ABI), Andrew Garner (ABI), Sue Burns (GOR), Alan Woodland, Barrie Strange, Pete Chivers, Mark Sandford (ALC), Alan Roche and Will Atkinson.

1. **Apologies** – Kate Worrall, Colin Mitchell, Mike Shipway, Paul Felton (T&G), Steve Flynn (BIC), Paul Harris (ALC), Richard Jegou (WHH), Kay Reynolds (RAD), Catherine Parkinson (PADO) and Trace McCallion (GOR).
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> June 2007** – All agreed to be a true record of the meeting held. Proposed by GP and seconded by BS.
3. **Matters Arising** –
  - a) Item 3(b) – Ian Robinson (BAN) is doing the results at the Inter-Counties on the 16<sup>th</sup> September 2007.
  - b) Item 4(b) – Grant Application Goring & Wallingford – under finance.
  - c) Item 5(a) – Sportshall travel grant, LH has distributed to the athletes and coaches.
  - d) Item 6(e) – Indoor Inter-Counties, BS has had confirmation from Berkshire that the event is taking place in the winter of 2008.
  - e) Item 6(f)(viii) – AV has written to parent regarding the entries at the County Champs, all is now sorted.
  - f) Item 7(a) – County X-C 6<sup>th</sup> January 2008 at Banbury, new name of Drayton School – North Oxfordshire Academy.
  - g) Item 7© - H&S workshop ongoing, AV to contact CB and check. **ACTION** – AV
  - h) Item 7© - Cancelled event should read Cholsey Chase, not Chorley Chase.
4. **Communications Task Group** –
  - a) **Secretary’s Report** –
    - i. **SEAA/AAA/UKA/EA**
      - SEAA Minutes of the Eligibility Committee meeting held 31<sup>st</sup> May 2007 -
        - Alice McGill from Bicester AC to Banbury Harriers.
        - Lucy Boggis from Radley AC to Shaftesbury Barnet.
      - SEAA Minutes of the Eligibility Committee meeting held 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2007 –
        - Philip Huxley from Witney Roadrunners to Oxford City AC.
      - SEAA Audited Accounts for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2006 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007.
      - SEAA Ltd Report from the Treasurer accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007.
      - SEAA cheque for £114.04 for unattached levies – passed to KW.
      - SEAA Information Update No. 108 – July 2007.
      - SEAA Information Update No. 109 – August 2007 –
        - Eligibility Rule Change – from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2007 responsibility for this will be transferred to England Athletics. Applications to be sent to Athletics Services Department on the existing form, to John Temperton.
      - UKA Road Running Leadership Group – New Licence System and Online Running Club for Road Running. The new system will have a sliding scale of fees for road races based on the size of the race. Race organisers will keep all the entry fees, including unattached levies. If races are given the option to open up to unlimited numbers, there would be a huge problem for officials. 25% of unattached levies to be paid to Counties by end of October.
      - SEAA notice of AGM 21<sup>st</sup> July 2007.
      - SEAA Honorary Secretary’s Report for the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007.
      - SEAA Agenda for the AGM on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2007.

- SEAA proxy form for the adoption of the accounts and report – returned.
- ii. **OTHER** –
- BUPA Great South Run – asking for runners to help The Stroke Association.
- iii. **RACE ENTRY FORMS** –
- Inter-Counties 10k Championships 2007 at Chichester on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2007.
  - Two Oceans Marathon – March 2008 information leaflets.
- b) **England Athletics Report by Alan Vincent** –
- i. AV reported on his recent attendance at the South East Council meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2007 –
- Council membership.**
- Graham Jessop had been invited and was co-opted onto the Council.
- Regional plan and budget**
- There is a dispute between UKA and England Athletics about the retention by UKA of some of the Sport England legacy funding and UKA's invoicing England Athletics for high services costs.
- Officials**
- Peer Group recommendations for the selection of officials for televised meetings will remain with the Territorial Officials Committees for another 12 months.
  - The governance and selection of international officials will move away from the Territories to supra-regional officials' committees (e.g. Southern Regions).
  - Education brochures have been distributed to all registered officials and coaches.
- Coaching**
- Three new Regional Event Coaches have been appointed - Steve King (Combined Events), Bronwin Carter (Disability) and Mark Chapman (Throws).
  - The Regional Club and Coach development Plan has been written and includes a minimum of 50 flying coach visits per county.
  - Two Coaches' conferences are planned for 30 September – Endurance at St Mary's and all other events at TVAC (with input from David Hemery and Judy Oakes).
  - Agreed Region needs more activity for disabled athletes.
- Road Running**
- Concern expressed over the establishment of an online running club: the relationship with traditional running clubs needs sorting.
  - However, the proposed virtual running club would not be an alternative to joining an existing running club, as it will not be affiliated and members will not therefore be able to take part in team competition.
  - Agreed that entry forms must work to a standard UKA template, e.g. on affiliated status.
  - The 25% refund of attached levies will be paid to the counties by the end of October.
- Competition**
- There is an urgent need for consultation with the counties re the latest draft of proposals. We need a task group to consider this.
  - The key recommendations for competition change that concern the counties focus on Level 1 (local schools/club competition) and Level 2 (sub-regional competition).
- At Level 1, the changes would include:
    - more open meetings in evenings and in short formats
    - more event-specific competitions for athletes over 14
    - greater partnership between schools and clubs
    - innovative club scoring methods based upon standards
    - common entry methods and publicity of opportunities
    - a new multi-disciplinary team game for 12-14 year olds.
  - At Level 2, the changes would include:
    - combining school and county championships
    - combining Young Athletes League and National Junior League – with reduced meeting length, minimum standards for points and meetings within region

- more event-specific activity within shorter competition formats, evening open meetings and increased use of relays.

#### **Affiliation**

- 166 clubs have signed up with England Athletics (out of 220), plus 44 other organisations.
- New arrangements mean that there is no statutory requirement for clubs to affiliate to the county. Agreed that the Region should actively encourage county affiliation and will consider funding this once the current funding issues have been resolved.

#### **Eligibility**

- Eligibility is now the responsibility of Athletic Services (c/o John Temperton).

#### **National conference**

- A National conference for Council members, regional managers and staff is to take place on Saturday 15 December.

- ii. Discussion held on the need for a Consultation on Competition in the County. An England Athletics Competition Review survey has been issued to Counties for discussion with clubs. Comments to be with EA by 15<sup>th</sup> October. Clubs to respond to County by end of September. Clubs to be invited to attend the consultation to be held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2007 at Exeter Hall from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. LH to book small hall. **ACTION – LH**  
AV to send out Review and J Buckner report by email to club contacts. **ACTION – AV**

c) **Website** – All going well to date. Paul Kelsey has paid fee, County due to pay 1/3<sup>rd</sup>.

d) **Press & Publicity Officer** –

MS unable to attend meeting, will report for next meeting.

5. **Officers Task Group** –

a) **Treasurer's Report** –

KW was unable to attend meeting, but sent in her report.

- i. County Funds stand at £10,845.02 at today's date.
- ii. Income since the last report was £2,172, significant sums were –
  - Road - £114 SEAA fees (Hooky 6).
  - Pole Vault Initiative Funding £1,650 – which has been ring-fenced in the accounts.
  - Track & Field – income from places booked on the coach for the U13 event £140.
  - Sale of Vests and Officials Polo Shirts and Fleece £178.
- iii. Expenditure since the last report was £1763, significant sums were –
  - Road – Officials mileage £20.
  - Track & Field – travel expenses £418. This included the cost of the U13 event coach of £355.
  - Track & Field County Champs – First Aid £49, Officials Food £132. Still outstanding are venue charges for Horspath and Banbury.
  - Officials Fleece - £348.
  - Sportshall travel grant - £250.
  - Power of 10 expenses - £361.
- iv. The cost of the County X-C venue has still not been billed – should c. £125.
- v. September will see the costs of the U20/U17/U15 hitting the cash flow. KW has received a budget from BS and together with last year's costs to fill in any unknowns we are looking at £800-£900.
- vi. We should be alright for medals within this Financial Year.
- vii. The current account is looking healthy with a balance of £4,401. This has been boosted by the grants for Power of 10 and the Pole Vault initiative. If the money is not due to go out again fairly quickly, perhaps we should consider transferring to the investment account, although is somewhat harder to access funds from this. Committee agreed for KW to use her own discretion on the transfer.
- viii. KW to get the accounts audited ready for the AGM.
- ix. Development account funds are £4,623.44. The only movement since the last report has been £50 towards the purchase of a starter's firearm.

- x. CM emailed concerning the missing cheque, he has spoken to Chris Benning and she will deal with at UKA.
- b) **Goring & Wallingford Grant Application** –  
Equipment grant went to Sub Regional Committee and nothing came of it. Now put to County Committee for Development Funding. Equipment list required by County. Committee agreed that the officers of the Committee could make the decision, funding required up to £1200. SB to send list to LH/AV/BS for consideration. Committee agreed in principle. **ACTION** – **SB/AV/LH/KW/BS**

6. **Track & Field Task Group** –

- a) **Inter County Meetings** – BS reported -
- i. County V Oxford University – senior men and women on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June at the Sir Roger Banister Track. Kay Reynolds (women) and Gary Jennings (men) were the team managers. An enjoyable friendly meeting.
  - ii. U13 boys and girls on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> July at Kingston-upon-Thames. Alan Millbank and Mike Miles were the team managers. 14 Counties took part; the boys were 10<sup>th</sup> and the girls 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - iii. Senior men and women on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> August at Portsmouth, Kay Reynolds and Gary Jennings were the team managers. 8 Counties took part; the men were 5<sup>th</sup> and the women 7<sup>th</sup>, overall 6<sup>th</sup>.
  - iv. Southern Counties U20/15 men and women on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> August at Copthall. Mike Hughes was the team manager. 17 Counties took part; U20 men were 15<sup>th</sup>, U15 boys 17<sup>th</sup>, U20 women 14<sup>th</sup> and the U15 girls 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - v. U20/17/15 men and women on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September at Tilsley Park. Eileen Kear is the women's team manager and BS the men's.
    - Counties taking part – Devon, Dorset, Glos, Worcester and Oxon.
    - Alan/Ray have requested officials. Ray has contacted other Counties.
    - St John's booked for first aid cover.
    - Lunches – BS will contact Ray, then Tilsley Park with numbers required. **ACTION** - **BS**
    - BS has numbers/letters, pins, field cards, track pads and declaration forms. He will be at Tilsley Park next Tuesday for the Pole Vault, so he can give to someone there. NB and AG agreed to take.
    - Photofinish – all in hand. Team declarations to be sent to Ian Robinson and AV.
    - Vests – MH has at present, need to get from him. AV to see MH on Sunday. **ACTION** – **AV**
  - vi. County T&F – Oxford AC would like to host next year at Horspath and give County money to do so. Decision to be made after the AGM next month by the new Committee. Concern over increasing costs at Tilsley Park. **ACTION** – **New Committee**.
- b) **PADO** – Catherine Parkinson was unable to attend meeting, no report received.
- c) **Sportshall** – nothing to report.
- d) **Coaching** – CM was unable to attend meeting, he sent in his report.
- i. **Pole Vault Development Squad**  
We had a very successful "Come and Try" day on 21<sup>st</sup> July; the weather was kind to us in the morning although the pm session ended with rain.  
We had 18 Athletes from various Clubs in the County and several Coaches attend.  
Ian Marriott and Bruce Hendrie were kept busy all day, and CM was pleased that Christine Benning and Chris Parkinson found time from their busy schedules to come along to lend their help and support on the day.  
The squad is now up and running and we have about 8 – 10 Athletes every Tuesday starting to learn to vault.  
We are running a Competition this Tuesday evening to enable them all to get a height on the County rankings list before the end of the season, which will become their target to beat at the start of next year. Please feel free to attend to see the Squad at work.  
We are also looking to run during the winter although we are having trouble finding an indoor area at present.
  - ii. **Power of 10**  
We are continuing to give away T-Shirts etc as the season has moved on, CM has to note at this point Gordon Manning an Endurance coach who has now got around half a dozen of his squad in Power of Ten.

Also it's good to see how many different Clubs are getting Athletes in the Power of Ten lists. So please check your Athletes results on the Power of Ten website and send in the claim form. CM will give a full breakdown on how we have done this year in his next report.

iii. **County Squad Day**

Catherine Parkinson, our PADO has booked the first of the Squad days on the 21<sup>st</sup> October at the Abingdon Tennis and Leisure Centre. This will be open to U13 to U20's with the theme of "Strength and Conditioning" [more details to follow]

For the first 21<sup>st</sup> we have secured the services of 2 International Coaches – Mike Leonard and John Davis to run some of the sessions and to answer any questions that the Athletes or Coaches may have.

This is a great opportunity to talk one to one with guys who have coached the likes of Craig Pickering and Joe Duck during their teenage years, so please make a date in the diary.

iv. **UKA Course Dates**

CM has the calendar for the coming winter and spring. Please apply direct to Andy Neal to attend and please talk to CM if you need funding for any of the courses and we will try to help, Power of Ten coaches will be funded in some way or other.

v. **C.R.B checks**

Please make sure you are up to date with your CRB check or you will not have your licence renewed by UKA and you will put yourself in a very vulnerable position with out the check.

e) Peter O'Keefe emailed Committee and Club contacts details of Multi-Event training possibilities for 2007/2008. PO is prepared to coach all events, a programme has been produced. Events to be coached, Pentathlon, Hephthalon, Octathlon and Decathlon. First date 7<sup>th</sup> October 2007. Contact PO if you require further information.

f) **Officials** – AV reported –

i. With the Track and Field season nearing an end, AV thanked all those who had officiated at County and Inter County fixtures this year. Their efforts are much appreciated.

ii. Completed work/duties sheets for the season should be returned by the end of this month.

iii. The season is not quite over and we are hosting the U20/U17/U15 Inter County match at Abingdon on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September. We could still do with extra officials for this, although Ray Lacey has done an excellent job in getting together a good complement. Any late offers to Ray Lacey or Alan Vincent.

iv. Insurance issues have been highlighted by the accident involving Margaret Strange regarding the under-insurance of officials, particularly at 'minor' meetings.

7. **Road & Cross Country Task Group** –

a) **Cross Country** – nothing to report at present.

b) **Road** – WA reported –

i. Since the last meeting there have been 10 permit races and one cancellation. The Thames run was scheduled for the weekend of the floods in July. Thanks to the officials WA has received reports on nearly all the races. Thame 10k there was trouble with the finish funnel.

ii. There have been 9 events in the Grand Prix series. In the men's competition Witney, Headington and Woodstock are locked together at the top of the table with only 1 point separating them. In the women's competition Headington have a healthy lead.

iii. The Inter Counties Road 10k Championships is the Chichester 10k on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2007, WA is looking for someone to act as team manager. WA will contact Paul Harris. **ACTION** – WA

iv. WA wishes to organise an Endurance Sub Committee meeting before the start of the Cross Country season. WA to arrange date and let people know. **ACTION** – WA

v. Endurance officials are being messed around by UKA, licences not through yet and some sent out are incorrect.

c) **Officials** – GP reported that more officials for endurance are required.

8. **Liaison with Local Authorities and Education** –

No report received. Main concern by County is the UKA merges between schools and County events.

9. **A.O.B.** –

- a) Preparation to be made for AGM. Announcement in press – date Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2007 at 7.30 pm. LH to produce list of proposed dated for 2007/2008. **ACTION – MS & LH**
- b) England Athletics membership – clubs should ensure all their members who compete in races are members of EA. If clubs and athletes not affiliated/members, should they be able to receive County Awards? Athletes who are not members should not run in club colours.  
Agreed this is not going to be easy to monitor if someone is a member or not, but needs to be looked at in the future. County Committee to discuss at a later date.  
Race entry forms – not all are set up to the right format to cover EA membership.

Meeting closed at 9.08 pm.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – AGM – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2007, at Exeter Hall, Kidlington at 7.30pm.